

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress
2nd Session

Vote No. 271

September 5, 1996, 3:20 pm
Page S-9902 Temp. Record

VA-HUD APPROPRIATIONS/Public Housing Drug Law Enforcement

SUBJECT: Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1997 . . . H.R. 3666. Helms modified amendment No. 5191.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 98-0

SYNOPSIS: As reported, H.R. 3666, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and independent Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1997, will provide a net of \$84.7 billion in new budget authority, which is \$2.8 billion under the Administration's request, \$714 million more than provided in the House-passed bill, and \$2.3 billion more than provided in FY 1996.

The Helms modified amendment would earmark \$20 million of the amount for Community Development Block Grants to increase law enforcement efforts, security measures, and capital improvements to stop illegal drug use in and around federally subsidized housing projects.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

Most public housing residents are law-abiding citizens who deserve to live in a community free of crime, drugs, and fear. Unfortunately, many such residents live in daily fear of assault by drug dealers and other criminals who not only rob them of their freedom, but also rob them of their dignity. Many public housing projects are incubators for crime and drug dealing. Children sell and use drugs, and, even worse, children shoot other children. This violence spreads throughout our cities and jeopardizes all citizens. Experience has shown that the residents themselves—who are most directly affected by drugs and drug-related crime—can do a lot to rid themselves of the fear and crime in their neighborhoods. For instance, when the Greensboro Housing Authority in North Carolina started a Police Neighborhood Resource Center at the Hampton Homes Development violent crime dropped by more than 40 percent. The Helms amendment would provide funding that could be used for grants for such programs. It deserves our unanimous support.

(See other side)

YEAS (98)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (2)	
Republican (51 or 100%)		Democrats (47 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (2)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Helms	Akaka	Inouye			Hatfield- ^{2AY} Murkowski- ²	
Ashcroft	Hutchison	Baucus	Johnston				
Bennett	Inhofe	Biden	Kennedy				
Bond	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kerrey				
Brown	Kassebaum	Boxer	Kerry				
Burns	Kempthorne	Bradley	Kohl				
Campbell	Kyl	Breaux	Lautenberg				
Chafee	Lott	Bryan	Leahy				
Coats	Lugar	Bumpers	Levin				
Cochran	Mack	Byrd	Lieberman				
Cohen	McCain	Conrad	Mikulski				
Coverdell	McConnell	Daschle	Moseley-Braun				
Craig	Nickles	Dodd	Moynihan				
D'Amato	Pressler	Dorgan	Murray				
DeWine	Roth	Exon	Nunn				
Domenici	Santorum	Feingold	Pell				
Faircloth	Shelby	Feinstein	Pryor				
Frahm	Simpson	Ford	Reid				
Frist	Smith	Glenn	Robb				
Gorton	Snowe	Graham	Rockefeller				
Gramm	Specter	Harkin	Sarbanes				
Grams	Stevens	Heflin	Simon				
Grassley	Thomas	Hollings	Wellstone				
Gregg	Thompson		Wyden				
Hatch	Thurmond						
	Warner						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

While favoring the amendment, some Senators expressed the following reservations:

We enthusiastically support the purpose of this amendment, but we are not pleased with placing an earmark on Community Development Block Grants. With that caveat, we urge the adoption of this amendment.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.